Application No. 09/552,887
Amendment Dated April 14, 2006
Response to Telephone Conference with Examiner of April 14, 2006

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (currently amended). A method for cashless and tokenless access to a plurality of casino gaming apparatus, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a tokenless biometric registration apparatus having at least one registration biometric input means for a ~~user~~ player to input a biometric sample, said biometric registration apparatus having at least one payment input means, said biometric registration apparatus connected to a central computer having a central data repository;

(b) providing the plurality of gaming apparatus, each gaming apparatus connected to said central computer, each gaming apparatus having at least one gaming apparatus biometric input means and a player logoff means;

(c) registering a player comprising the steps of inputting at least one biometric sample of the player into the registration biometric input means, storing unique biometric data created by the biometric input means in the central data repository but not associating the unique biometric data with other details of identity of the player, inputting into the payment input means an amount of money, creating a unique player's account in the central computer associated with the at least one biometric sample of the player and storing the amount of money input in a the unique player's

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account ~~in the central computer associated with the at least one biometric sample of the player~~;

(d) identifying said player at one of said plurality of gaming apparatus by said player entering a gaming apparatus biometric sample input into said one of said plurality of gaming apparatus biometric input means and comparing it to said unique biometric data stored in said central data repository;

(e) authorizing said player at said one of said plurality of gaming apparatus to play on said one of said plurality of gaming apparatus;

(f) debiting and or crediting said unique player's account based on the player's wins and losses at the gaming apparatus until said player logs off using said player logoff means or until said player's account is exhausted; and

(g) paying said player any money remaining in said player's account after said player no longer desires to play;

whereby a player can move to another of the plurality of gaming apparatus, input a biometric sample into one of the at least one gaming apparatus biometric input means, play the gaming apparatus for a period of time, and log off the gaming apparatus, said unique player's account being credited and debited for wins and losses on the gaming apparatus.

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2 (original). A method for cashless and tokenless access to a plurality of casino gaming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the step of providing the plurality of gaming apparatus with the player logoff means includes providing a player logoff proximity sensor.

3 (original). A method for cashless and tokenless access to a plurality of casino gaming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the step of providing the plurality of gaming apparatus with the player logoff means includes providing a player logoff button.

4 (original). A method for cashless and tokenless access to a plurality of casino gaming apparatus according to claim 1, where the step of paying said player money remaining in said player's account includes providing a payout machine having a payout biometric input means.

5 (original). A method for cashless and tokenless access to a plurality of casino gaming apparatus according to claim 4, where the step of providing the payout machine includes providing a payout machine that is integral to at least one of said casino gaming apparatus.

6 (original). A method for cashless and tokenless access to a plurality of casino gaming apparatus according to claim 1, where the steps including providing the registration biometric input means and the gaming apparatus biometric input means that utilize fingerprints, hand prints, retina scans, or voice prints.

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7 (original). A method for cashless and tokenless access to a plurality of casino gaming apparatus according to claim 1, where the step including providing the payment input means includes providing a payment input means that accepts credit cards, debit cards, or money access cards.

8 (original). A method for cashless and tokenless access to a plurality of casino gaming apparatus according to claim 1, where the step including providing the payment input means includes providing a payment input means that accepts currency.

9 (original). A method for cashless and tokenless access to a plurality of casino gaming apparatus according to claim 1, where the step of providing the plurality of gaming apparatus includes providing slot machines and video gaming machines.

10 (original). A method for cashless and tokenless access to a plurality of casino gaming apparatus according to claim 1, where the step of providing the plurality of gaming apparatus includes providing generic access machines.

11 (original). A method for cashless and tokenless access to a plurality of casino gaming apparatus according to claim 1, further including the step of collecting player data related to players' use of said plurality of casino gaming apparatus to the central computer having the central data repository.

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12 (original). A method for cashless and tokenless access to a plurality of casino gaming apparatus according to claim 11, where the player data collected includes data concerning type of casino gaming apparatus, quantity of casino gaming apparatus played, time spent on each casino gaming apparatus, and money spent on each casino gaming apparatus.

13 (canceled).

14 (original). A method for cashless and tokenless access to a plurality of casino gaming apparatus according to claim 1, including the step of providing a keypad on the biometric registration apparatus for using a PIN and wherein the step of registering a player includes entering a PIN.

15 (original). A method for cashless and tokenless access to a plurality of casino gaming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the step of providing the plurality of gaming apparatus includes providing gaming apparatus having a video screen for displaying information related to the player's unique player's account.

16 (cancelled).

17 (currently amended). A method for cashless and tokenless access to a financial account, said method comprising the steps of:

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(a) providing a tokenless biometric registration apparatus having at least one registration biometric input means for a user to input a biometric sample, said biometric registration apparatus having at least one payment input means, said biometric registration apparatus connected to a central computer having a central data repository;

(b) providing a plurality of kiosks, each kiosk connected to said central computer, each kiosk having at least one kiosk biometric input means;

(c) registering a user comprising the steps of inputting at least one biometric sample of the user into the registration biometric input means, storing unique biometric data created by the biometric input means in the central data repository but not associating the unique biometric data with other details of identity of the user ~~player~~, inputting into the payment input means an amount of money, creating a unique user's account in the central computer associated with the at least one biometric sample of the user and storing the amount of money input in a the unique user's account ~~in the central computer associated solely with the at least one biometric sample of the user~~;

(d) identifying said user at one of said plurality of kiosks by said user entering a kiosk biometric sample input into said one of said plurality of kiosk biometric input means and comparing it to said unique biometric data stored in said central data repository;

(e) authorizing said user at said one of said plurality of kiosks to access said unique user's account for a transaction;

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(f) debiting and or crediting said unique user's ~~player's~~ account based on the transaction; and

(g) paying said user any money remaining in said user's account, when said user desires to cancel said unique user's account.

18 (original). A method for cashless and tokenless access to a financial account according to claim 17, where the steps including providing the registration biometric input means and the kiosk biometric input means that utilize fingerprints, hand prints, retina scans, or voice prints.

19 (original). A method for cashless and tokenless access to a financial account according to claim 17, where the step including providing the payment input means includes providing a payment input means that accepts credit cards, debit cards, or money access cards.

20 (original). A method for cashless and tokenless access to a financial account according to claim 17 where the step including providing the payment input means includes providing a payment input means that accepts currency.

21 (original). A method for cashless and tokenless access to a financial account according to Claim 17, including the step of purging the unique biometric data and the unique user's account from the

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central computer after the step of paying said user any money remaining in said user's account, to provide for privacy of the user.

22 (original). A method for cashless and tokenless access to a financial account according to claim 17, including the step of providing a keypad on the biometric registration apparatus for using a PIN and wherein the step of registering a user includes entering a PIN.

23 (original). A method for cashless and tokenless access to a financial account according to claim 17, wherein the step of providing the plurality of kiosks includes providing kiosks having a video screen for displaying information related to the user's unique user's account.

24 (currently amended). A method for cashless and tokenless access to a plurality of casino gaming apparatus, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) providing the plurality of gaming apparatus, each gaming apparatus connected to a central computer having a central data repository, each gaming apparatus having at least one gaming apparatus biometric input means and a money input means;

(b) allowing a player to play on any of said gaming apparatus by inputting money into said money input means;

(c) after the player plays on a gaming apparatus, registering said player comprising the steps of inputting at least one biometric sample of the player into the gaming

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apparatus biometric input means, storing unique biometric data created by the biometric input means in the central data repository but not associating the unique biometric data with other details of identity of the player, creating a unique player's account in the central computer associated with the at least one biometric sample of the player, crediting to a the unique player's account in the central computer an amount of money associated with the at least one biometric sample of the player;

(d) allowing a player to play on another of said gaming apparatus by inputting money into said money input means or by accessing said unique player's account of said player by inputting said biometric sample of said player into the gaming apparatus biometric input means and comparing said biometric sample to said unique biometric data stored in said central data repository;

(e) debiting and or crediting said unique player's account based on the player's wins and losses at said another gaming apparatus until said player logs off by exhausting his account, collecting his winnings, or until said player inputs the biometric sample of said player into said gaming apparatus biometric input means; and

(f) comparing said biometric sample to said biometric data stored in said central data repository and crediting or debiting said unique player's account accordingly;

whereby a player can move to another of the plurality of gaming apparatus, input a biometric sample into one of the at least one gaming apparatus biometric input means, play the gaming

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apparatus for a period of time, and log off the gaming apparatus, said unique player's account being credited and debited for wins and losses on the gaming apparatus.

25 (original). A method for cashless and tokenless access to a plurality of casino gaming apparatus according to claim 24, where the step of paying said player money remaining in said player's account includes providing a payout machine having a payout biometric input means.

26 (original). A method for cashless and tokenless access to a plurality of casino gaming apparatus according to claim 25, where the step of providing the payout machine includes providing a payout machine that is integral to at least one of said casino gaming apparatus.

27 (original). A method for cashless and tokenless access to a plurality of casino gaming apparatus according to claim 24, where the steps including providing the gaming apparatus biometric input means that utilizes fingerprints, hand prints, retina scans, or voice prints.

28 (original). A method for cashless and tokenless access to a plurality of casino gaming apparatus according to claim 24, where the step including providing the payment input means includes providing a payment input means that accepts credit cards, debit cards, or money access cards.

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29 (original). A method for cashless and tokenless access to a plurality of casino gaming apparatus according to claim 24, where the step including providing the payment input means includes providing a payment input means that accepts currency.

30 (original). A method for cashless and tokenless access to a plurality of casino gaming apparatus according to claim 24, where the step of providing the plurality of gaming apparatus includes providing slot machines and video gaming machines.

31 (original). A method for cashless and tokenless access to a plurality of casino gaming apparatus according to claim 24, where the step of providing the plurality of gaming apparatus includes providing generic access machines.

32 (canceled).

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